



Chapter 03

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Ever After estem

The Little Mermaid

人魚姫







You'll be having dinner tonight with the senator.





I found a merman.

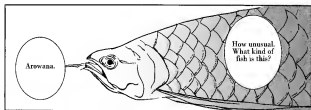
He himself insisted that he was a merman.

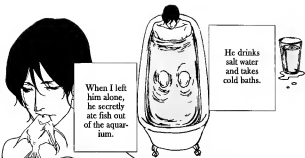
No matter how you look at him, he's a man, but...

We're out in public here, so if you don't mind, let's get you to my place.

That's an image from a story.

You're different from the image. You'd expect a merman to be more...





When I left him alone, he secretly ate fish out of the aquarium.

He drinks salt water and takes cold baths.



There are a lot fewer...

If he goes on this way, I'll end up with...



I'm tired.

Can we today?

And the wonderful thing is...



The only thing I can say I know about him is that our bodies are extremely compatible.



Just let
me do this.

I sleep much
better after
touching his
cool body.



It's
fine if you
don't want
to; I'll just
follow my o-
riginal work
schedule.

But
you're
busy...

I want
to go to
the sea!



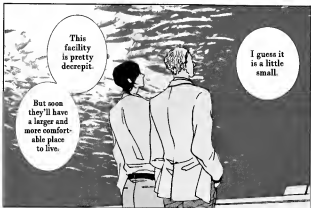
Huh?

It must
be boring
staying in-
side the house
every day. Do
you have some-
where you'd
like to go?



There
are plenty
of other
places.

That's a
no. I can't
swim.



It will
be by far the
largest in the
country. Would
it make you
happy if these
fish could
live there?

My company
is working
on a plan
for a seaside
resort.

Among
other sea-
themed
amusements,
we're planning
an aquarium.



Sure
do some
strange
things.

People...



What kind
of fish is
that big
one?!

Oh!

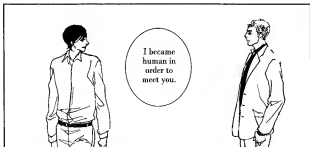
Don't just
suddenly
say some-
thing so
vague and
weird...!

People
do...?











Where did
he go...?



?!



*Joking
aside...*

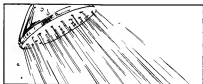
*I really
can't swim,
so I won't
be able to
rescue
you.*



*That's
enough!
Come out
of there!*

Dammit...









Do you
remember
the end of
the little
mermaid's
story?

...what
happened
to her?

She turned
into sea
foam and
disappeared.



And the next
morning, the
merman had
disappeared.



But this was
so sudden.



I'm ac-
customed
to losing
things.

Come to
think of it,
I was left
with a sin-
gle pet.

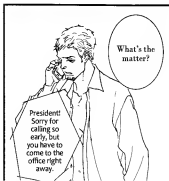


*He ate
them all,
in the end.*



What's the
matter?

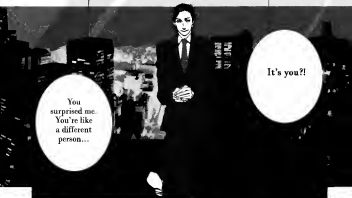
President!
Sorry for
calling so
early, but
you have to
come to the
office right
away.



RING
RING
RING







You surprised me.
You're like
a different
person...

It's you?!



What kind
of person
are you?

You...



I'm a merman.

How many
times do I
have to say
it?









I was surprised at how many I was able to take.



These photos will be something of a blow, won't they?

Concerning your plans for a political career...





Please
give me
another
chance...

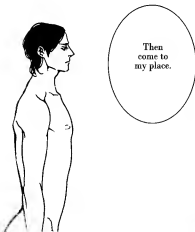


I see.
If that's
how it is...



Now what?
Was that
everything
you've got?

If you
were going
to threaten
me, you
should have
prepared
better.



Then
come to
my place.





I'll stir up
his obsession
with my true
identity.

This is a
tactic that will
take me far.



I'll command
his complete
attention.



We'll discover
each other's
true intentions.



...but I won't
become
involved
with him.

I have one
request to
make.







!?



This is
good-bye.



If that's
the case, then
should I just
play out the
end of the
story?

Kill you
and become
a merman
again?

Turn into
foam and
disappear?



Dammit!

It pissed
me off. If
you're going
to disappear,
at least...



...hey.

Still.
"Turning into
foam and
disappearing"?
How idiotic.

...a real-life
performance.
An act of
protest that
had consider-
able impact.



Reveal your
true form.

Hey...
where
are
you?

This isn't
how "The
Little Mer-
maid" ends!

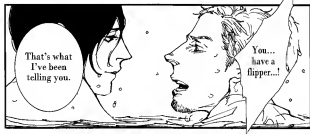
COUGH



The
prince
realizes
she's
his true
love...

With the
mermaid...

And...
together...



His care and feeding are simple: give him raw fish to eat and seawater to drink.



I'm living with a merman.

There's only one thing that bothers me about him...

His intelligence is high, and he's a gentle and compassionate creature.



He doesn't fit in the bathtub.

IMPORTANT!

Our rules:

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1. NO BOMBING OF MEMBERS, NO ~~SWITCH~~ BOMB OF THIS OR
ANY OF THEM.
2. NOFT BOMBING OTHERS WITH.
3. NO PUT FINGER OF THE OTHER TO THE SCREEN.
4. NOFT BOMBING ANY OTHER.
5. NOFT THE OTHER OF OTHER.
6. NOFT BOMBING IF THE OTHER IS BOMBED.

